

Message Text

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66

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 ADP-00 PA-03 PRS-01

USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 IO-13 EB-11

SCEM-02 INT-08 SS-15 NSC-10 JUSE-00 L-03 OMB-01 RSR-01

TRSE-00 /167 W

----- 031970

R 231517Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9553

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION USEC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USINT BAGHDAD UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 6120

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

EO 11652: ADS DECLAS 7/23/74

TAGS: OPEC, AU

SUBJECT: OPEC STATUS IN VIENNA

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1. AMID SPATE OF RUMORS THAT OPEC SEEKING NEW HEADQUARTERS

OUTSIDE VIENNA, AUSTRIAN PRESS REPORTED GOA HAS CONCLUDED AGREEMENT WITH ORGANIZATION GIVING DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITIES TO BROADER RANGE OF ITS PERSONNEL. OTHER UNDEFINED PRIVILEGES AND PARTIAL SUBSIDY OF OPEC COSTS ALSO REPORTEDLY GRANTED. OPEC SOURCES, HOWEVER, STATE THERE HAS BEEN NO FORMAL AGREEMENT DESPITE REPEATED ATTEMPTS BY ORGANIZATION TO ACHIEVE SAME STATUS AS INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY.

2. WE HAVE RECEIVED REPORTS THAT MOST OPEC DELEGATES, PARTICULARLY SECGEN KHENE AND OTHER SENIOR PERSONNEL, DISSATISFIED WITH VIENNA, A SITUATION WHICH BEGAN WITH STRICT CONTROL ON TRAVELING ARAB PERSONNEL BEFORE AND AFTER MUNICH. UNSUBSTANTIATED REPORTS INDICATE POSSIBILITIES OF ROME, MADRID OR BRUSSELS.

3. GOA INTENSELY INTERESTED KEEPING OPEC HERE BECAUSE IN OIL CRISES PETROLEUM OFFICIALS FEEL PRESENCE WILL GIVE AUSTRIA OIL ACCESS PREFERENCE. GOA HAS ALREADY TRIED ARRANGE SOME DEALS WHICH WE ARE REPORTING SEPARATELY.

4. WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE EARLY MOVE FROM VIENNA, BUT AS ONE OPEC MEMBER CONFIDED QTE WHAT PRIVILEGES WE GET HERE CAN BE USED IN NEGOTIATING RELOCATION TO WHEREVER IS EVENTUALLY DECIDED UNQTE. WE HAVE LEARNED THAT KHENE HAD DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY WITH SPANISH OFFICIALS BUT NO AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED. HE IS SCHEDULED SOON TO HAVE TALKS WITH ITALIAN GOVERNMENT. RECOMMENDATION HAS TO GO TO BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND BE ON CONFERENCE AGENDA BEFORE MOVE CAN BE MADE. THUS FAR THESE ACTIONS HAVE NOT BEEN TAKEN. MOWINCKEL

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